

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 311  
By McNally

A RESOLUTION to commend Alfred Bell for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee as a member of the Knox County Election Commission.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Alfred Bell is one such estimable individual who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors, particularly as he served as a valuable member of the Knox County Election Commission from 1997 to 2003; and

WHEREAS, a Knoxville native, Mr. Bell is a graduate of Powell High School and Lincoln Memorial University; he also attended Tennessee Technological University, where he earned his Master of Science degree in Education and his Education Specialist degree; and

WHEREAS, a talented and experienced educator, Alfred Bell has instructed students at the elementary school, high school and college levels, having taught at Dallas Elementary School, Powell High School, Union College and Knoxville Business College; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bell currently serves as the Supervisor of Social Studies for Knox County Schools, the duties of which position he has fulfilled with both acumen and alacrity since 1979; and

WHEREAS, active in his profession, Alfred Bell is a member of numerous professional organizations, including the Foothills Council for the Social Studies (having served as President), the Mid-South Educational Research Association, the Tennessee Council for the Social Studies, the National Council for the Social Studies, the Tennessee Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, the National Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development and the Tennessee Geographic Alliance (serving as a Member of the Executive Board); and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bell is a highly respected member of the Knoxville community; he currently serves as a member of the Knox County Republican Executive Committee, the Christian Community Social Concern Committee and the National Citizenship Committee; and

WHEREAS, certainly the model citizen, Alfred Bell has previously served as an Elected Member of the Knox County Quarterly Court, as a Member of the Knox County Aeronautical Authority, as a Member of the Knox County Board of Adjustments (Zoning Appeals), as a Trustee of the Knox County Public Library and as the Chief Negotiator of the Knox County Schools Negotiating Team; and

WHEREAS, in 1997, Mr. Bell commenced his term of service as a member of the Knox County Election Commission; in so doing, he gave generously of his time and abundant talent to ensure the fair and equitable administration of the democratic process in his beloved Knox County; and

WHEREAS, throughout his exemplary tenure as a member of the Knox County Election Commission, Alfred Bell has distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to his community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bell's remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Alfred Bell is an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly and epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bell evinces his devout religious faith as a Member and Deacon of Arlington Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bell was blessed for many years with the love and companionship of his kind and thoughtful wife, the late Carolyn Bell; he continues to be both supported in his efforts and inspired to excellence by their child, Ms. Rebecca Bell, a successful attorney in Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, Alfred Bell is a truly remarkable man whose dedication to the service of humanity empowers all Tennesseans to fulfill their potential as individuals and as citizens of this great nation; living by the words of one of our country's finest presidents, Theodore Roosevelt, Mr. Bell has shown that: "Far better it is to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checkered by failure, than to take rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy nor suffer too much, because they live in the gray twilight that knows not victory nor defeat"; and

WHEREAS, Alfred Bell is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend Alfred Bell for his honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee with the Knox County Election Commission and salute his unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.